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## **AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

### **Work Session**

### **Minutes – February 9, 2021**

Mayor Clevenger called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM via Zoom Conferencing. Council present was: Mayor Derek Clevenger, Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, Doug Ecclestone, Scott Lee, Della Seney, and Walter Wick. Council absent: None. City Administrator Ron Harding (CA Harding) was also present via Zoom. The meeting was video recorded to be released later.

CA Harding began the session discussing the outline for this and future work sessions. He expressed to Council that, even though we have some challenges, and all cities have challenges, it's the nature of city government. He stated that our city is in a position to accomplish some unprecedented achievements. CA Harding told Council he feels like we in a very good place due to the hard work and planning efforts of the city during the past four years.

The first item on the agenda was to review the Council Protocol Manual. CA Harding stated the manual has been reorganized from the previous version for better flow and includes links to information sources so new Council members could easily access this information if they choose to conduct further research. Many of the topics within the manual represent best practices and are not requirements of an ORS or city Charter. He explained that this manual is the Council's document to determine rules of conduct or establish general business conduct.

CA Harding explained each section briefly and took questions from Council as they were raised. Mayor Clevenger raised a question about section 9.2 Membership and Selection for committees. The section provides a process for the Mayor to appoint committee members with Council approval. The sentence states a two-thirds majority is needed to overturn an appointment by the Mayor. Mayor Clevenger wants to define what 2/3 equals. Is it four or five councilmembers? CA Harding said the process the Council has used was for the Mayor to recommend the appointments and seek approval from Council. He did not believe it's as formal as stated here. CA Harding will research and come back with some final language suggestion.

10.1 Addressing the Council: CA Harding said he wanted to see an edit in this section. It lists organizations but the section is related to the public or individuals so he would like to suggest some edits in this section.

10.5 Written Communications: concerns were raised as there had been some confusion last year about how and when Council receives letters from the public. The concern raised was the process when a councilmember receives a letter from the public related to city business. The

councilmember should provide this to the entire council in advance of a council meeting. This is a courtesy to the other councilmembers and in the spirit of the no surprise rule under council conduct. The Council asked for a more detailed explanation of this process.

12. Communication Plan: this section designates the Mayor as the public information officer for the City Council and the CA as the public information officer for the city. The Council approved Resolution 11-19 allowing Council to appoint the public information officer. Mayor Clevenger would like to see this as a reoccurring action every two years and suggested we include this at the same time as when Council appoints a council president.

CA Harding will make some suggested language changes to address these concerns and bring back for approval at the next council meeting.

CA Harding reviewed the Vision Plan with the City Council. There were some grammatical edits suggested as well as a name that was listed more than once. Council consensus was to correct these changes and bring back to Council for approval at the next meeting.

CA Harding when over the multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan. This plan was approved in 2017 and is part of the Marion County hazard mitigation plan completed in cooperation with FEMA. CA Harding discussed a project list approved under the hazard mitigation plan and explained which projects were completed and which projects were ongoing. The purpose of the discussion was to inform Council of the types of hazard mitigation requirements the city must complete and our performance of meeting these requirements. There was general discussion on how some of these mitigation projects align with Council goals.

CA Harding reviewed the five Council approved goals with a subset of objectives. Then discussed each goal and the ideas that will be suggested to meet each goal as we move forward. The goals are:

**Goal 1:** Provide and maintain municipal facilities and infrastructure to support current operations and growth.

**Goal 2:** Support and encourage community involvement to create a sense of community and enhance livability.

**Goal 3:** Create an environment to attract, retain, and grow businesses.

**Goal 4:** Ensure a safe and prepared environment for citizens and businesses.

**Goal 5:** Provide City services that are responsive to citizens and demonstrate good stewardship.

The purpose of the presentation is to keep these goals fresh in our minds and we work through the planning session. This will assist Council in prioritizing projects and help identify if we need additional goals.

CA Harding then opened the discussion up for council initiatives. Mayor Clevenger discussed his desire to build a strong business economy. He suggested the city join local chambers of commerce as a forum to attract additional business to our area. CA Harding said we could easily accomplish this action. He also noted that when he provides the presentation of

economic development it will include some recommendations, many specific to the interchange management zone. CA Harding then discussed with Council some emerging development projects. He stated that we are currently seeing a lot of development and may have our largest growth year in 2021-2022 to date. We are seeing this growth in both residential and commercial type activities.

No additional initiatives were discussed but at the end of our work session series of presentations we will discuss recommendation and council can revisit any items they wish.

**ADJOURNED WITHOUT PREJUDICE AT 8:54 PM**



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Ron Harding, City Administrator



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Derek Clevenger, Mayor